

speech actions are modals, lexical markers of agreement, etiquette phrases, less informative particles. Directive speech actions serve to develop a discussion. They are primarily expressed by indirect requests, indirect questions, modal modifiers to meet English culture norms requiring minimization of the imposition on communicative partners. Cognitive speech actions are directed to sharing professional knowledge and expressing experts' viewpoint on actual medical issues. They are represented by means of modality devices, cognitive verbs, hedging, and specific markers.

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